

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A toner comprising a binder resin and at least a colorant, wherein:

the toner has a storage modulus (G' (L1)) in a linear region and a storage modulus (G' (NL)) in a nonlinear region at 180°C, in step strain measurement of from a linear region to a nonlinear region of viscoelastic characteristics, satisfying the relationships of

G' (L1)/ G' (NL) is from 5 to 20, and

G' (NL) is from 100 to 400 dyn/cm^2 ; and

the binder resin comprises a block polyester and an amorphous polyester;—and

the toner contains a release agent in an amount of 4 parts by weight or less per 100 parts by weight of the binder resin.

2. (canceled).

3. (currently amended): An image forming system apparatus comprising:
an image forming apparatus;—and
a toner; wherein:

the image-forming apparatus comprises:

an image carrier on which an electrostatic latent image is formed;
a developing unit containing a toner, wherein the developing unit which develops the electrostatic latent image on the image carrier to form a toner image by the toner;
a transferring unit which transfers the toner image on the image carrier to a recording medium; and
a fixing unit which fixes the toner image transferred to the recording medium by heating, wherein the fixing unit has oil-less two rollers; and
the toner is the toner of claim 1 and has a dynamic viscoelastic characteristic showing a behavior of a linear region (L1) at an inlet of a fixing nip, a behavior of a nonlinear region (NL) at the fixing nip part, and a behavior of a linear region (L2) at an outlet of the fixing nip.

4. (currently amended): A toner comprising a binder resin and at least a colorant, wherein:

the toner has a storage modulus (G' (L2)) in a linear region at 180°C, in step strain measurement of from a nonlinear region to a linear region of viscoelastic characteristics, of from 400 to 2,000 dyn/cm²; and

the binder resin comprises a block polyester and an amorphous polyester; and
the toner contains a release agent in an amount of 4 parts by weight or less per 100 parts by weight of the binder resin.

5. (original): The toner according to claim 4, wherein the toner has a ratio of the storage modulus (G' (L2)) to the storage modulus (G' (NL)) in a nonlinear region G' (L2)/G' (NL)

at 180°C, in step strain measurement of from a nonlinear region to a linear region of viscoelastic characteristics, of from 3 to 8.

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): An image forming system-apparatus comprising:
an image-forming apparatus; and
a toner; wherein:
the image-forming apparatus comprises:
an image carrier on which an electrostatic latent image is formed;
a developing unit containing a toner, wherein the developing unit which develops the electrostatic latent image on the image carrier to form a toner image;
a transferring unit which transfers the toner image on the image carrier to a recording medium; and
a fixing unit which fixes the toner image transferred to the recording medium by heating, wherein the fixing unit has oil-less two rollers; and
the toner is the toner of claim 4 or 5 and has a dynamic viscoelastic characteristic showing a behavior of a linear region (L1) at an inlet of a fixing nip, a behavior of a nonlinear region (NL) at the fixing nip part, and a behavior of a linear region (L2) at an outlet of the fixing nip.